

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q96673

Shinsuke AOSHIMA, et al.

Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/JP2005/006573

Confirmation No.: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

Filed: September 28, 2006

Examiner: Not yet assigned

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DETECTING DEFECT IN OPTICAL FIBER,
AND PLASTIC OPTICAL FIBER MANUFACTURING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants enclose herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents (International

IAP2 Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 SEP 2006

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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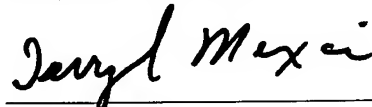
Attorney Docket No. Q96673

Stage of PCT/JP2005/006573 dated July 12, 2005), together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office. Also, JP-B2-3332922, JP-A-2000-281379 and JP-A-2001-235396 are cited and discussed on page 2 of the specification of the present application. Additionally, English-language abstracts, submitted herewith, provide concise statements of relevance for JP-A-6-331557, JP-A-11-271175, JP-A-10-68700, JP-A-2000-351646, JP-A-8-208264, JP-B2-3332922; JP-A-2000-281379, JP-A-2001-235396 and JP-A-61-130904.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 28, 2006

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

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First Named Inventor

Shinsuke AOSHIMA et al.

Art Unit

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Examiner Name

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US			
		US			
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		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	6-331557	A	12-02-1994	SUMITOMO ELECTRIC INDUSTRIES	Abstract
		JP	11-271175	A	10-05-1999	LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES INC.	Abstract
		JP	10-68700	A	03-10-1998	NIPPON ELECTRIC CO.	Abstract
		JP	2000-351646	A	12-19-2000	SHINETSU CHEMICAL CO.	Abstract
		JP	8-208264	A	08-13-1996	FUJIKURA LTD.	Abstract
		JP	3332922	B2	07-26-2002		Abstract
		JP	2000-281379	A	10-10-2000	MITSUBISHI CABLE IND., LTD.	Abstract
		JP	2001-235396	A	08-31-2001	FURUKAWA ELECTRIC CO., LTD.	Abstract
		JP	61-130904	A	06-18-1986	NIPPON SHEET GLASS CO., LTD. and OTSUKA YASUJI	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.